

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) An information processing system, ~~comprising~~ including a first server computing device, the first server computing device including:

a main processor to execute one or more server applications, and

an intelligent network interface controller including a protocol processor,

wherein the intelligent network interface controller includes a configuration to:

a first computing device configured to:

receive a data stream containing first information that has been formed by the main processor according to a server application software instructions; and

independent of the application software instructions, form second information that is independent of the server application for causing a second client computing device to perform an operation; and

in response to receiving the data stream containing the first information, wherein the protocol processor includes a configuration to:

execute protocol stack instructions to create one or more packets that include at least the first and second information; and

output the one or more packets to the second client computing device.

2. (Currently amended) The system of ~~[[claim]]~~ Claim 1, wherein the first computing device is configured to:

~~in response to receiving the data stream containing the first information, execute the protocol stack instructions for creating~~ intelligent network interface controller includes a configuration to output the one or more packets in accordance with a network protocol.

3. (Currently amended) The system of ~~[[claim]]~~ Claim 2, wherein the network protocol is TCP/IP.

4. (Currently amended) The system of ~~[[claim]]~~ Claim 2, wherein the network protocol is UDP/IP.

5. (Currently amended) The system of ~~[[claim]]~~ Claim 2, wherein the ~~first computing device is configured to:~~

~~output protocol processor includes a configuration to output~~ the one or more packets to the ~~second client~~ computing device through a network in accordance with the network protocol.

6. (Currently amended) The system of ~~[[claim]]~~ Claim 5, wherein the network is a global computer network.

7. (Currently amended) The system of ~~[[claim]]~~ Claim 5, wherein the network is an IP network.

8. (Currently amended) The system of ~~[[claim]]~~ Claim 1, wherein the ~~first computing device is configured to:~~

~~in response to receiving the data stream containing the first information, execute the protocol stack instructions for creating~~ protocol processor includes a configuration to create the one or more packets, wherein the one or more packets each contain a header portion and a data portion, the header portions each ~~including~~ include at least one header, and the data portions of the one or more packets collectively ~~including~~ include at least the first and second information.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently amended) The system of ~~claim 9~~ Claim 1, wherein the ~~operation~~ second information includes ~~maintaining a session~~ an HTTP session identifier, and wherein the first server computing device includes a configuration to maintain a session by receiving one or more packets from the client computing device containing the HTTP session identifier.

11. (Currently amended) The system of ~~[[claim]]~~ Claim 10, wherein the operation includes maintaining a session by addressing a subsequent packet to the first server computing device.

12. (Currently amended) The system of ~~claim 9~~ Claim 1, wherein the operation includes modifying state information.

13. (Currently amended) A method performed by an intelligent network interface controller of a first server computing device of an information processing system, the method comprising:

receiving a ~~data stream containing~~ first information that has been formed according to application software instructions executed by a main processor of the first server computing device;

independent of the application software instructions, forming second information for causing a ~~second~~ client computing device to perform an operation;

in response to receiving the ~~data stream containing the first information,~~ executing using a protocol stack processor of the intelligent network interface controller to execute protocol stack instructions to create one or more packets that include at least the first and second information; and

outputting the one or more packets to the ~~second~~ client computing device.

14. (Currently amended) The method of ~~[[claim]]~~ Claim 13, wherein the method comprises:

in response to receiving the ~~data stream containing the first information,~~ executing the using a protocol stack processor of the intelligent network interface controller to execute protocol stack instructions for creating the one or more packets in accordance with a network protocol.

15. (Currently amended) The method of ~~[[claim]]~~ Claim 14, wherein the network protocol is TCP/IP.

16. (Currently amended) The method of ~~[[claim]]~~ Claim 14, wherein the network protocol is UDP/IP.

17. (Currently amended) The method of ~~[[claim]]~~ Claim 14, wherein the method comprises:

outputting the one or more packets to the ~~second~~ client computing device through a network in accordance with the network protocol.

18. (Currently amended) The method of ~~[[claim]]~~ Claim 17, wherein the network is a global computer network.

19. (Currently amended) The method of ~~[[claim]]~~ Claim 17, wherein the network is an IP network.

20. (Currently amended) The method of ~~[[claim]]~~ Claim 13, wherein the method comprises:

in response to receiving the ~~data stream containing the~~ first information, ~~executing using a protocol stack processor of the intelligent network interface controller to execute the protocol stack instructions for creating the one or more packets, wherein the one or more packets each contain a header portion and a data portion, the header portions each including~~ include at least one header, and the data portions of the one or more packets collectively ~~including~~ include at least the first and second information.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Currently amended) The method of ~~claim 21~~ Claim 13, wherein the operation includes maintaining a session and the second information includes an HTTP session identifier.

LAW OFFICES OF
CHRISTENSEN O'CONNOR JOHNSON KINDNESS^{PLLC}
1420 Fifth Avenue
Suite 2800
Seattle, Washington 98101
206.682.8100

and wherein the first server computing device maintains a session by receiving one or more packets from the client computing device containing the HTTP session identifier.

23. (Currently amended) The method of ~~[[claim]]~~ Claim 22, wherein the operation includes maintaining a session by addressing a subsequent packet to the first computing device.

24. (Currently amended) The method of ~~[[claim 21]]~~ Claim 13, wherein the operation includes modifying state information.

25. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium containing instructions that, when executed by an intelligent network interface controller associated with a first server computing device, cause the ~~first computing device~~ intelligent network interface controller to process information by performing a method comprising:

receiving a ~~data stream containing~~ first information that has been formed according to application software instructions executed by a main processor of a first server computing device;

independent of the application software instructions, forming second information for causing a ~~second client~~ computing device to perform an operation; and

in response to receiving the ~~data stream containing the~~ first information, executing using a protocol stack processor of the intelligent network interface controller to execute protocol stack instructions to create one or more packets that include at least the first and second information[[:]] and outputting output the one or more packets to the second client computing device.

26. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium of ~~[[claim]]~~ Claim 25, wherein the one or more packets are formed in accordance with a network protocol.

27. (Canceled)

28. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium of [[claim]] Claim 25, wherein the computer-readable medium is a memory of a computer device.

29-31. (Canceled)

32. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium of [[claim]] Claim 25, wherein the second information comprises session maintenance information.

33. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium of [[claim]] Claim 32, wherein the second information comprises an address of a second server computing device that causes the ~~second~~ client computing device to migrate an existing session to the second server computing device.

34. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium of [[claim]] Claim 25, wherein the second information comprises a cookie.

35-44. (Canceled)

45. (Currently amended) The information processing system of [[claim]] Claim 1, wherein the second information causes the ~~second~~ client computing device to migrate an existing session to a second server computing device.

46. (Currently amended) The information processing system of [[claim]] Claim 1, wherein the second information comprises a cookie including an address of a second server computing device.

47. (Currently amended) The method of [[claim]] Claim 13, wherein the second information causes the ~~second~~ client computing device to migrate an existing session to a second server computing device.

48. (Currently amended) The method of [[claim]] Claim 13, wherein the second information comprises a cookie including an address of a second server computing device.